

REMARKS

Claims 1-8 and 20-31 are pending in this application. By this Amendment, claim 1 is amended and claims 20-31 are added. No new matter is added.

Entry of the amendments is proper under 37 CFR §1.116 since the amendments: (a) place the application in condition for allowance (for the reasons discussed herein); (b) do not raise any new issue requiring further search and/or consideration (as the amendments amplify issues previously discussed); (c) do not present any additional claims without canceling a similar number of finally rejected claims; and (d) place the application in better form for appeal, should an appeal be necessary. Entry of the amendments is thus respectfully requested.

The courtesies extended to Applicant's representative by Examiner Arancibia at the interview held June 14, 2007, are appreciated. The reasons presented at the interview as warranting favorable action are incorporated into the remarks below and constitute Applicant's record of the interview.

I. Claim Rejections

The Office Action (i) rejects claims 1-2 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) over Japanese Patent Publication No. 06-183002A to Hosogai et al. (Hosogai); and (ii) rejects claim 3 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over Hosogai. Applicant respectfully traverses the rejections.

Hosogai discloses an ink jet recording head comprising individual reservoirs 2, connection reservoir section 9, bypass pit 8, and nozzles 1 (Figs. 1 and 2). Individual reservoirs 2 are connected together by connection reservoir section 9 so that every nozzle 1 can receive ink even if one of the individual reservoirs 2 runs out of ink (paragraph [0012]). While Applicant is unsure whether there is one bypass pit 8 or many, bypass pit 8 connects nozzles 1 to connection reservoir section 9.

Regarding independent claim 1, Hosogai fails to disclose third passages that "extend between and directly connect to the first passages and second passages" because Hosogai's bypass pit 8 connects nozzles 1 to connection reservoir section 9.

For the foregoing reasons, Applicant respectfully requests withdrawal of the rejections.

II. New Claims

Independent claim 20 recites the step of forming the second passages to be interleaved with the first passages. Hosogai fails to disclose this feature because Hosogai's nozzles 1 and independent reservoirs 2 are not interleaved.

Independent claim 28 recites that "every fluidic connection between a first passage and a second passage comprises a plurality of third passages. Hosogai fails to disclose this feature because in Hosogai, every fluidic connection between a nozzle 1 and an individual reservoir 2 comprises only a bypass pit 8 and the connection reservoir section 9.

For the foregoing reasons, claims 20-31 are patentable over Hosogai.

III. Conclusion

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and prompt allowance are earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further would be desirable in order to place this application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,



James A. Oliff
Registration No. 27,075

Jonathan H. Backenstose
Registration No. 47,399

JAO:JHB/ccs

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OLIFF & BERRIDGE, PLC
P.O. Box 19928
Alexandria, Virginia 22320
Telephone: (703) 836-6400

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